

mated. There is practically no danger of salivation or diarrhea and digestion is not disturbed.

Many lesions which resist internal medication will clear up under injections.

Advantages of Mercury by the Mouth Over Injections. The medicine can be given in pill form and this can be carried in one's pocket and taken without trouble. For routine treatment when no active lesions are present the results are apparently as good as by injections. There is less likelihood of losing the patient on account of the fear which some have of the pain following the injections.

The Disadvantages of Injections. At times they are quite painful.

The necessity of visiting the physician at times when it is not required by the condition of the patient.

The Advantages of Soluble Salts Over the Insoluble. Pain is not so severe or lasting.

They can be given in aqueous solutions.

The results are as good as from the insoluble salts.

The dose can be regulated better, as absorption is more rapid and there is no accumulation of the drug.

The Advantages of Insoluble Salts Over the Soluble.

It is not necessary to give the injections so frequently.

Lesions of the mouth and nervous system clear up more rapidly.

The Disadvantages of Insoluble Preparations. The severe pains, which frequently last a long time, occasionally as long as a week.

The tenderness of the inflammatory lump which frequently remains after the injection.

They must be given in oil, hence the danger from embolism.

The dangers from salivation and other symptoms of mercurialism from accumulation of the salt at the points of injection.

Inunctions have the draw-back of being dirty, of sometimes causing cutaneous eruptions, and the dose cannot be regulated so carefully as by injections of soluble salts.

Nevertheless inunctions seem to be the best form of treatment for severe cases in children and in nervous women, and it is good treatment whenever mercury is indicated.

Intra-Venous Injections are of service in those cases where it is necessary to obtain a rapid action, but in which it is necessary to avoid all pain. They are sometimes dangerous, and when the mercury happens to get outside the vein the pain is excruciating.

Conclusions. When it is necessary to get the patient rapidly under the influence of mercury, when eye or nerve symptoms are present, when lesions resist the usual treatment, and when pills cannot be taken, then injections should be used.

For treating patients who show no active lesions, mercury given by the mouth in pill form is most convenient and is thoroughly satisfactory. When injections are given it matters very little which of the soluble salts already mentioned are used. If given properly they act well. If it is necessary to give an insoluble salt, grey oil and the salicylate will be found less painful than calomel.

Dr. Pottenger's Name Misused.

To the Editor of the STATE JOURNAL: I know that you and the readers of the JOURNAL are acquainted with the methods used in distributing samples of pharmaceutical and laboratory preparations, so I will not dilate upon these methods, but simply wish to call attention to one specific case.

A short time ago a representative of the Merrell-Hall Company of Chicago called at my office in reference to Dr. Shiley's combined serums. As I was ready to leave my office I gave him about two minutes of my time; made him no promises whatever regarding the use of the samples which he had previously left for me.

After looking into the remedy I could see absolutely no theoretical grounds for its existence, and consequently did not care to use it.

It has come to me from several sources; in fact, I have received letters from several physicians in the state, asking me if I were using it and stating that the representative was using my name as being one of those who was putting it to test. I wish to state that this is absolutely untrue. I have not used this remedy, and until I can at least see some excuse for its existence, I shall not try it.

Yours very truly,

F. M. POTTENGER.

Los Angeles, Cal., January 10, 1906.

U. S. Pharmacopeial Business Affairs.

The Board of Trustees met at Pittsburg, December 2d. Members J. H. Beal, A. E. Ebert, J. P. Remington, S. A. D. Sheppard and H. M. Whelpley were present. Horatio C. Wood was absent. Secretary Murray Galt Motter has issued to the members the official minutes of the proceedings. A resume of the work of the Committee of Revision to be published in convenient form was discussed but no definite action taken by the trustees.

An edition of the Pharmacopeia in the Spanish language will, no doubt, be one result of the recent meeting. A committee consisting of Professor J. P. Remington, Chairman of the Committee of Revision, Charles E. Dohme, Chairman, Board of Trustees, and Dr. H. C. Wood, President U. S. P. Convention, was appointed to make the preliminary arrangements for an edition of 2000 copies. The discussion developed the fact that great interest is being taken in the proposition.

Dr. Walter Wyman, Surgeon General of the Marine Hospital and Public Health Service, was tendered a special vote of thanks for the publication of Bulletin No. 23 entitled, "Changes in the Pharmacopeia of the U. S. of A., Eighth Revision." Also, for the bulletin on Standardization of Diphtheria Antitoxins. A vote of thanks was also tendered Dr. Reid Hunt and Dr. Murray Galt Motter, of the Service, for their work on Bulletin No. 23.

With the view of bringing the Pharmacopeia to the direct attention of medical students, it was decided to present the professors of materia medica in the medical colleges with complimentary copies of the Pharmacopeia. The recipients of such copies will be requested to call the students' special attention to the purpose of the Pharmacopeia and the nature of official remedies.

The extent of additional honoraria to members of the committee of revision was considered at length, but action postponed until the next meeting of the board.

Several applications from publishers who desire to use portions of the text of the U. S. P. were discussed and the rate of compensation decided upon.

The board adjourned to meet at the new Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C., January 20, 1906.

The Pittsburg College of Pharmacy tendered the Board of Trustees an informal dinner.

HENRY M. WHELPLEY, Secretary,
U. S. Pharmacopeial Convention.

GEORGE CHISMORE, M. D.

George Chismore, M. D., died at his home in San Francisco on the 11th day of January, 1906. Doctor Chismore was born in Litchfield, New York, on the 30th day of January, 1840, and he lacked but a few days of being 66 years of age. In the volume of the Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of California for the year 1900 is a sketch of his life, he being then the president of the society, and it is hardly necessary to repeat here the story, but the varied character of his experiences is to be noted, for he was on a New Bedford whaler, was for a short time a miner, studied and practiced dentistry, and while doing the latter, studied medicine, and later at-



*Your Truly
Geo. Chismore*

tended medical lectures. Before he graduated, however, he served in official medical capacities for the Western Union Telegraph Company and the United States Army, and leaving the latter, took his degree in medicine from the Medical Department of the University of the Pacific in 1873.

Doctor Chismore has related that as a boy he voluntarily nursed an old man who lived in a little cottage near his home until the sick man died, and has said that his interest in medicine began then. The taking of his degree, which he did not do until after he had been officially practicing for seven or eight years, was important as a necessary step to legal practicing, but was in other ways a minor matter. He was eminently one of the men who did not learn all his medicine in a medical school; he learned many facts there, beyond doubt, but they were parts of an armamentarium, the major portions of which were an intense sympathy, a great power of observation, and a rapidity of reasoning and accuracy of judgment which made many of his diagnoses seem almost matters of intuition. Nor did this faculty stop here. His therapeutic measures were selected by the same processes, and yet with the most painstaking care, for he believed and preached that the duty of the physician was to make his patients well, and that the profit to the sick man was little or naught unless this goal was attained, in part at least. This was the key-note of his professional work, his endeavor to make the sick better or well. It will not be believed by those who knew him, it must not be thought by those who did not, that the scientific side of medicine was slighted. His work, looked at from the strictest scientific view point, will stand the closest scrutiny, and this is especially true of his large amount of original work, and is practically true of his errors.

The original work he did was in the field of genito-urinary surgery, to which field he in great measure restricted himself after eleven years of general practice in San Francisco. His modifications of lithola-

paxy, actually reversing many of the processes of the original Bigelow operation, as in forcing the last elusive fragment to seek the lithotrite instead of seeking for it with the instrument, make the operation practically a new one, and it is done with instruments of his own design, on original lines and of the strictest simplicity. Leading and teaching the profession in this, he has not hesitated in other points, to oppose with equal earnestness the prevailing opinions when his judgment or experiences failed to approve them. He objected strongly to the common practice of washing out the bladder, to the catheterization of the ureters, and the use of strong injections in the deep urethra. He objected, too, in no uncertain terms, and backed his objection by the citation of personal cases, to surgical intervention in cases of tuberculosis of the genito-urinary tract, and it must be considered that this objection was positive, not negative work; that the expectant treatment advocated had a definite object, which was to be attained by certain lines of action.

Apart from his professional work his life was a complex one, for it touched the lives of many and diverse people in many and varying ways, and yet, after all is said, always in one way. In the Bohemian Club, of which he was twice president, in his social life outside the club, in his charities, which were more than even his intimate friends probably knew, in his simply going about the city's streets, he always attracted a definite love from his fellow men; wholly distinct from mere gratitude, not necessarily based on intimate acquaintance, often coming from those who did not agree with him, but offered by all who knew him, because there was something in him which called it forth. It was a response to the manly sweetness of a character which we will certainly wait long to see duplicated, but, which having known, we can never forget; nor ever wholly lose the effect of its influence.